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THE HUMBLE PETITION OF The LORDS and COMMONS To the King,

For leave to remove the Magazine at *Hull* to the Tower of *London*:

And also to take off the Reprieve of the six condemned Priests now in New-gate.

Together with His MAJESTIES Answer thereunto.

LONDON:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.
1642.

LONDON:

To the Kings most Excellent Majestie

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament.

Most gracious Soveraign,

YOur most dutifull and loyall Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, finding the stores of Arms & Ammunition in the Tower of *London* much diminished; And that the necessitie of supplies for Your Majesties Kingdom of *Ireland*, (for which they have been issued from thence) daily increaseth: And that the occasion for which the Magazine was placed at *Hull* is now taken away; And considering it will be kept here with lesse charge and more safetie, and transported hence with much more convenience for the service of the Kingdom of *Ireland*;

They therefore humbly pray, That Your Majestie will be graciously pleased to give leave that the said Arms, Cannon, and Ammunition, now in Magazine at *Hull*, may be removed to the Tower of *London*, according as shall be directed by both Your Houses of Parliament.

And whereas six Priests now in New-gate, are condemned to die, and by Your Majestie have been Reprieved;

They humbly pray Your Majestie to be pleased, that the said Reprieve may be taken off, and the said Priests executed, according to Law.

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His Majesties Answer

To the foregoing Petition of the Lords and Commons in Parliament.

WE rather expected (and have done so long) that you should have given Us an account why a Garrison hath been placed in Our Town of Hull, without Our consent, and Souldiers Billeted there, against Law, and expresse words of the Petition of Right. Then to be moved (for the avoiding of a needlesse charge you have put on your selves) to give Our consent for the removall of Our Magazine and Munition (Our own proper Goods) upon such generall Reasons, as indeed give no satisfaction to Our judgement. And since ye have made the businesse of Hull your Argument, We would gladly be informed, why Our own inclination (on the generall rumour of the designes of Papists in the Northern parts) was not thought sufficient ground for Us to put a Person of Honour, Fortune, and unblemished Reputation, into a Town and Fort of Our own, where Our own Maga-

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Magazine lay; And yet the same rumour be warrant enough for you, to commit the same Town and Fort (without Our consent) to the hands of Sir John Hotham, with a Power unagreeable to the Law of the Land, or the liberty of the Subject: And yet of this in point of Right or Priviledge, (for sure We are not without Priviledge too) We have not all this while complained; And being confident that that place (whatsoever discourse there is of publike or private Instructions to the contrary) shall be speedily given up, if We shall require it; We shall be contented to dispose Our Munition there (as We have done in other places) for the publike ease and benefit, as upon particular advice We shall finde convenient: Though We cannot think it fit, or consent that the whole Magazine be removed together. But when you shall agree upon such Proportions as shall be held necessary for any particular service, We shall signe such Warrants as shall be agreeable to wisdome and Reason. And if any of them be designed for Ulster or Leinster, you know well the conveyance will be more easie and convenient from the place they now are in. Yet We must tell you, That if the Fears are so great from the Papists at home, or of Forreign Force, (as is pretended) it seemes strange that you make not provision of Arms and Munition for defence of this Kingdom, rather then seek to carry any more from hence, without some course taken for supply, especially if you remember your engagement to Our Scots Subjects, for that proportion of Arms which is conteined in your Treaty. We speak not this, as not

thinking the sending of Arms to Ireland very necessary: But onely for the way of the Provision. For you know what great quantities we have assigned out of Our severall Stores, which in due time, We hope, you will see replenished. For the charge of looking to the Magazine at Hull, as it was undertaken voluntarily by you at first, and (to say no more) unnecessarily; so you may free Our good People of that charge, and leave it to Us to look to, who are the proper owner of it.

And this We hope will give you full satisfaction in this point, and that ye do not (as ye have done in the businesse of the Militia) send this Message out of complementall Ceremony, resolving to be your own Carvers at last: For We must tell you, If any attempt, or direction shall be made or given in this Matter, without Our consent or approbation, We shall esteem it as an Act of violence against Us, and declare it to all the world, as the greatest violation of Our Right, and breach of Our Priviledge.

Concerning the six Priests condemned: It is true, they were Reprieved by Our Warrant, being informed that they were (by some restraint) disabled to take the benefit of Our former Proclamation: since that, We have illued out another for the due execution of the Laws against Papists, and have most solemnly promised, in the word of a King, never to pardon any Priest (without your consent) which shall be found guilty by Law; desiring to Banish these, having herewith sent Warrant to that purpose, if upon second thoughts ye do not disapprove thereof: But if you think the

Execution

Execution of these Persons so very necessary to the great and Pious work of Reformation, We refer it wholly to you; declaring hereby, that upon such your Resolution signified to the Ministers of Justice, Our Warrant for their Repriefe is determined, and the Law to have the course.

And now let Us ask you (for We are willing to husband time, and to dispatch as much as may be, under one Message: God knows the Distractions of this Kingdom want a present Remedy) will there never be a time to offer to, as well as to ask of Us? We will propose no more particulars to you, having no luck to please, or be understood by you. Take your own time for what concerns Our particular: But be sure ye have an early, speedy care of the Publike, that is, of the onely Rule which preserves the Publike, The Law of the Land: Preserve the Dignity, and Reverence due to that. It was well said in a Speech made by a private Person, but published by Order of the House of Commons this Parliament; The Law is that which puts a difference betwixt Good and Evil, betwixt Just and Unjust: If you take away the Law, all things will fall into a Confusion, every man will become a Law unto himself, which in the depraved condition of humane nature, must needs produce many great enormities: Lust will become a Law, and Envie will become a Law, Covetousnesse and Ambition will become Laws, and what Dictates, what Decisions such Laws will produce, may easily be discerned. So said that Gentleman, and much more very well in defence of the Law, and against Arbitrary Power. It is worth looking over

It was part of *Pims* Speech against the Earle of *Strafford*.

over and considering. And if the most Zealous Defence of true Protestant Profession, and the most Resolved Protection of the Laws, be the most necessary Duty of a Prince, We cannot believe this miserable Distance, and Misunderstanding can be long continued between Us; We having often and earnestly Declared them, to be the chiefest Desires of Our Soul, and the End and Rule of all Our Actions.

For Ireland We have sufficiently, and, We hope, satisfactorily expressed to all Our good Subjects, Our hearty sense of that sad Business, in Our severall messages in that Argument; But especially in Our last of the eighth of this Moneth, concerning Our Resolution for that Service: For the speedy, honourable, and full performance whereof, We conjure you to yeeld all possible Assistance, and present Advice.

FINIS.

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